

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 3, 9, and 12 have been amended without prejudice.

The Office objected to claim 3 because the word "one" was misspelled as "on." The Office also objected to claims 9 and 10 because the words "electronic and an" in line 2 of claim 9 were in the wrong order. These informalities have been corrected as suggested by the Office.

The Office rejected claims 1-6, 8-15, and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Restarick et al. (USP 6,684,951). Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to overcome Restarick.

Claims 1 and 12 now read that the perforated end is opposite the open end and that a flange attached to the receptacle extends perpendicularly from the axis of the receptacle. Claims 1 and 12 further include that transmission elements are disposed in the grooves which are formed in mounting surfaces formed by the flange. Restarick does not disclose such a filter, but rather discloses a screen with inner and outer mandrels comprising a plurality of radial flow apertures. Restarick does not teach or disclose transmission elements disposed within mounting surfaces formed by a flange which is attached adjacent the open end and also extending perpendicularly from an axis of the receptacle. Since some of the limitations of the amended claims are not disclosed by Restarick, the Applicants respectfully suggest that claims 1 and 12 are no longer anticipated by Restarick. Also, since the electrical coupling of the conductors disclosed by Restarick is significantly different from the transmission elements and their connection to a transmission network integrated into the drill string, which is disclosed by the Applicants of the present invention, the Applicants respectfully submit that the filter described in claims 1 and 12 would not be obvious in view of the screen of Restarick and that the claims 1 and 12 are now allowable.

Since claims 1 and 12 are now allowable and claims 2-6 and 7-11 depend from now allowable claim 1 and since claims 13-15 and 17-19 all depend from now allowable claim 12, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-6, 7-11, 13-15, and 17-19 are now all allowable.

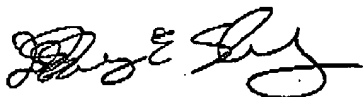
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The Office also rejected claims 7 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Restarick. Since claim 7 depends from now allowable claim 1 and claim 16 depends from now allowable claim 12, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is now moot and that claims 7 and 16 are now allowable.

In view of the amendments and arguments made above, the Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in a condition for allowance and respectfully request a timely notice of allowance in this case.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 180584 in the amount of \$120, the fee required under 37 ✓
CFR 1.17(a)(1) for a one month extension for time. It is believed that there are no other fees due at this time. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 180584. If there are any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned at 281-878-5658.

Respectfully submitted,



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